SOUTHERN CROSS

Vol. 6. MAY, 1932. No. 5.

Published by the SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Don Mack Dalton, Mission President, Editor. Main and Grove Roads, Mowbray, C.P., South Africa.

Sincerity of the Latter-Day Saints.

Address over Radio Station KSL, Sunday Evening, March 20, 1932, by Dr. FRANKLIN S. HARRIS, President, Brigham Young University.

In our discussion of some of the practical accomplishments of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints its has been our endeavor to make an objective examination. We have attempted to focus the light of truth upon the Church with its more than 600,000 members and examine them in a practical way in an endeavor to discover the real nature of the Church and the class of people which belong to it. It has been our aim to study the attitude of the member toward the Church and the effect of the Church on the lives and accomplishments of its members.

It is the rule that anyone from the outside who comes in contact with the Church and becomes intimately acquainted with its members is impressed by the strong feeling of sincerity and conviction that is practically universal among them. One visitor expressed the idea to me by saying: "My goodness, but these Mormons do seem to believe in their Church and its teachings. There is no half-way about it with them. It seems to permeate their entire lives and to be a part of all they think and do."

A recent writer on the Latter-day Saints entitled his book "Zealots of Zion." His thesis throughout the text was that the Latter-day Saints are so completely converted to their religion and so zealous in carrying out its practical teachings that they are swept into a current of action which permits them to

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overcome obstacles that appear almost insurmountable. He endeavors to show that without very strong zeal backed by religious fervor it would have been impossible for them to accomplish some of the things they did in colonizing remote sections, in placating the Indians during troublous times and in continuing the co-operation which made possible their many achievements.

Those who are not in sympathy with the Latter-day Saints have sometimes accused them of allowing their zeal to approach a state of fanaticism. While it cannot be denied that there are members of this Church as well as of others who have a fanatical trend, it is the general opinion of impartial observers who are familiar with the accomplishments of the Latter-day Saints and with their daily lives that as a group they are not the sort who throw off restraint to the extent of becoming fanatical.

Fanaticism and sincerity may have some features in common but they are very different qualities. Fanaticism is blind determination to go ahead without taking into consideration many obvious facts and without analyzing the problems together with the results. Sincerity, on the other hand, carries with it the determination to go forward but it implies an understanding of the situation. It presupposes the examination of the facts, and analysis of the conditions, with an assurance that after due deliberation one is justified in proceeding with a reasonable conviction of success. The one is traveling in the uncertainty of darkness; the other is going forward in the full light of day with an assurance that the destination will be reached.

The Man Who Knows Where He is Going

David Starr Jordan once said: "The world gets out of the way of the man who knows where he is going." The sincere man is certainly the one who knows where he is going, be it in seeking his daily bread, searching for scientific facts or praying for guidance to understand our purpose here on earth.

The sincerity of the Latter-day Saints comes from their belief that they have a light which can illuminate the pathway of all mankind, and they believe it to be their Christian duty to share with others the good things which they have found. It is a very fundamental trait of human nature to tell others about good fortune in discovering something which offers a better way of doing things or is a more perfect method of living. What person on seeing a beautiful sunset will not call the attention of his associates to it? Who on taking a journey to some distant land does not like to tell about the strange things he has seen? What golf player does not like to advise another player of less skill to "keep his head down" or to "carry through?"

This desire to assist others to live more in accord with what we believe to be right, may become obnoxious if not done with diplomacy. Individuals vary greatly in their ability to convey desirable information to others. Doubtless there are in every group certain individuals who have not the diplomacy and skill to give out information without being offensive.

Since this is true, it is not unreasonable to expect that among the Latter-day Saints there have been many individuals who have unwisely attempted to force their beliefs on others and have thereby aroused antagonism. Throughout the history of the Church, there have been persecutions. Doubtless, some of these have been brought about by individuals who have made themselves objectionable because they have attempted to force their beliefs on to those who did not want to receive them. This is, of course, largely a matter of personality, and the lack of wisdom of the individual member should not be blamed to the Church as a whole.

Throughout history, inventors and discoverers in all lines have been exposed to the ridicule of those whom they have tried to interest in their affairs. Goodyear, the discoverer of the process of vulcanizing rubber, the process which makes it invaluable to mankind, was an object of ridicule throughout his life. To many

of those with whom he came in contact he was thought to be fanatical, when in reality he was only sincere in his belief in rubber. The lapse of time has demonstrated that he was entirely right and that rubber is one of the most useful substances in contributing to human needs.

Morse was the butt of ridicule during many years because of his belief in the value of the telegraph. Similarly, the early workers in aviation were considered to be little less than insane in their zeal to perfect flying machines.

Can it be any wonder then that members of this Church, who believe that they have new ideas which should prove of as much benefit to others as to themselves, wish everyone to know about these things? Nor is it strange that they should be subjected to at least some persecution. Throughout all the ages men have died for ideas and ideals. The great teachers of the better ways of living and the missionaries who have gone about advocating these beliefs have all been willing to suffer and even become martyrs to the cause they have represented.

These are all demonstrations of the fundamental trait that man, when he has something good, simply will not be suppressed.

Joseph Smith's Experience

Joseph Smith, as a young man, was persecuted because he told of having received revelations. He could not understand why people hounded him when he was simply telling what he knew to be true. Even the Savior knew no peace during His lifetime and died on the cross because He had a new message for the world and He was sincere in advocating it.

Sincerity, even though it at times may be disturbing to those who dislike change, is a quality greatly to be admired. There is, in fact, no substitute for it whether it be in public address, in debate, or in practical life. The hypocrite, the insincere individual or the one who has no convictions is deserving of contempt, whereas the man of sincere ideals is worthy of respect even though there may be difference of opinion regarding what he advocates.

Individual Testimonies

As I have made mental notes of the sincerity of the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints I have been struck by the countless number of individual testimonies of the divine origin and truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ as taught by this Church. While it would, of course, not be possible to say that every member of the Church can bear this testimony, the thing that has impressed me time after time as I have gone about in my casual way is to hear the individual testimonies of so many and to see the sincere belief they have in this work. It has been my privilege to travel considerably in connection with my scientific and academic duties and in doing so I have taken occasion to drop into the meetings of Latter-day Saints wherever I have found them and to converse with the individuals whom I have met. I have done this as any observer might have done and everywhere I have found the same spirit, the same sincerity and the same devotion to the work.

I have seen this in a little village almost under the shadow of the great volcano of Popocatepetl in Mexico. Here I attended the gathering of members of the Latter-day Saint Church, members who for years had been essentially out of touch with the body of the Church, or with any missionaries. There I heard a man of Aztec origin arise and tell in eloquent though very simple language of his connection with the Church. I could not help being impressed with his account of what the Church has done for him, how it took him from a life of carelessness and with no very definite philosophy and had transformed him into an individual with a definite and wholesome attitude toward life. He now had a hope for an eternity which will include useful work. He told of how the Church has motivated him to discontinue bad habits and to live a better life in every way. This particular experience might be duplicated hundreds of times and in each case I have noted the same sincerity in the testimonies given

The same things have been observed in Hawaii and other islands of the sea, in Japan and in Syria. I have also seen it in the various countries of Europe when I have gone quietly into gatherings of Latter-day Saints in these places. Everywhere in these lands I have been impressed with the sincerity of these worshipers and at their devotion to the Church and their desire to express appreciation for what it has done for them in promoting better living.

If you happen to be in even the most remote regions of the West where Latter-day Saints are found and go to their meetings you will find the same spirit of sincerity, the same aid to living the better life, the same devotion to the cause that I had seen in foreign countries. Similarly, if you go to the greatest city in the land and walk into a meeting of Latter-day Saints, you will find in the group prominent scientists, physicians, attorneys, captains of industry, teachers and working men all joining in sincere worship. From each group you will hear the same story of devotion, the same intellectual conversion and the same desire to live up to the ideals of the Church. These people are not held together principally by the social advantages that accompany church affiliation. They are sincere in their belief, they love their Church and its teachings, they know their lives are made better because of it, they are anxious to continue their study of its principles and to conform their lives with its teachings.

Spiritual As Well As Practical

In these discussions during the last several months, we have had a good deal to say about the practical phases of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We have shown that it does work in a practical way. It stands the pragmatic test. If the members were not deeply sincere in their belief in eternal progression including intellectual striving for truth they would not stand out so strikingly from their neighbors in leadership, in industry, in morality, in education, in patriotism, in health, in charitable work and in the many other phases of their lives which are deeply influenced by the doctrines of the Church. The very fact that they do attend Church more frequently than is customary in most other churches, as indicated by social surveys, shows that they are sincerely striving to gain and apply to their lives more and more of the truths taught by the Church.

I have had non-members of the Church freely acknowledge the superiority of Mormonism from this practical point of view but they have sometimes failed to see anything beyond these practical results. I wish to say at this time that while I recognize these practical values as indicated by the discussions of the past months, still these are not sufficient to make a church adequate for all the needs of mankind.

Man is more than a practical and social individual. He yearns for spiritual things, he must have a philosophy that is satisfying to him. Mormonism offers this philosophy. It is satisfying to the soul as well as practical in its operation. In fact it is just this soul-satisfying quality which it possesses that makes for the sincerity of devotion on the part of its adherents. People may admire an organization that is efficient, but a Church must be something more than this if it is to secure completely devoted adherence and cause its members to bring their whole attention to a worshipful attitude. Scholarly members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, who have analyzed the beliefs and the Church problems, say that it is not merely the practical side of this religion nor its fine social system that causes them to adhere to it in spite of persecutions and discouragements; it is the deeper philosophic significance of its teachings. They feel that in the Gospel of Jesus Christ they have a "Pearl of great price." It points the way, it gives the means by which man may gain complete happiness not only in this world but throughout eternity. It shows the eternal nature of man and his co-existence with God and brings out the fact that man and God both may progress eternally.

Mormonism Dynamic

Mormonism is a dynamic philosophy—one that calls for activity in the world to come as well as in this one. It calls for careful living of the type that promotes happiness together with all of the best things of the world. It induces vigilance in preparing the members for living here and hereafter. It accepts the Gospel as a system of democracy in which each individual is entirely free to work out his own salvation independent of interference by anyone else. It places him beyond the accidents of circumstance and makes it possible for him to rise above all unfavorable conditions. The position which he achieves is not determined by chance or unusual conditions but by the effort the individual puts forth. The fact that Mormonism works in a practical way here is merely one of the evidences that applied truth is effective wherever it is found. The Church makes its adherents feel that they are supported and sustained by the power of truth in all that they undertake.

After many years of observing the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in all parts of the world, and after having had unusual opportunity to get into the intimate lives of these people, to know their aspirations, their philosophies and their outlook, I am able to bear testimony to the sincerity and the devotion of the people, to the cause they have espoused. Because their sincerity occasionally bubbles over they should probably be excused since it is a manifestation of the same missionary spirit that actuates almost every peron who feels sure that he has something that will benefit his fellows and who, therefore, is anxious that others shall partake of the benefits.

The members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints know that their own lives have been made better by the teachings of the Church; they see on every hand their acquaintances who have been stimulated to better living because of it. They feel that in its democracy they have something better than they have been able to find in other philosophies. Therefore, their sincerity is deep rooted and may at times lead them to be enthusiastic to a degree that is not entirely appreciated by others who do not want to be disturbed in their own ways of thinking and living.

Making Your Body Glorious

By Bernarr MacFadden.

Glorify God in your body is a Biblical command. It is a command also dictated by common sense. Your body is the house in which you must live all through life. You cannot move out of it until you make your last trip to the cemetry.

To exalt and beautify the body exemplifies the highest degree of culture and intelligence. Your body should be treated with reverence. It should be cared for daily, and given every consideration. You should assume the responsibility as a sacred trust. Therefore, the acquirement of buoyant, vital health is a duty no one should neglect.

Many of the tragedies that are so interestingly present in the vivid, life-like stories, were made possible because the body was treated with indifference.

When you possess a hardy, vigorous body, your physical instincts give poise and add force to your character. Your very soul is more keenly alive. And you then have a foundation for spiritual power, that should be invaluable in the attainment of lifes great riches of mind and soul.

Nearly all criminals are physically as well as mentally defective. They have sinned against the body, and they had to pay the associated penalities.

Man was made in the image of God, so the Good Book tells us. If you expect love and romance to come into your life, you should try and make your body godlike in its proportions. It is only then that masculinity and femininity posses the fascinating lure that leads to a sacred love. The Glamour of romance, after all, serves a very practical purpose. It is

made to perpetuate the home and guarantee the continuance of the race. Therefore, do not decry the body—your flesh and blood home. Give it careful consideration every day of your life. Make it strong, fine and splendid throughout its every part.

In I Cor. Chaps. 3: 16-17 we read "Know ye not that ye are the temples of God." "If any man defile the temple of God him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." Regardless of your religious views, you cannot get away from the truth of this divine philosophy.

Our bodily house can be built with such fine material that it will stand the stress and storm of the most severe nature.

Even the most devastating sorrows that seems to sear the soul to the very limit can be lived down and the sunlight of life can still add zest and glory to your daily life if you properly assume the sacred trust of building and maintaining that hardy strength which is our natural heritage.

CONCERT RECITATIONS FOR June, 1932.

Primary and Kindergarten Classes.

"And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them. And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18: 2-3.

Book of Mormon Class.

"And it came to pass that none received authority to preach or to teach except it were by him from God. Therefore, he consecrated all their priests and all their teachers; and none were consecrated except they were men."

Mosiah. 23: 17.

Church History Class.

We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. Fourth Article of Faith.

THE CHURCH.

By President B. H. Roberts.

In order to propagate the gospel, and teach, encourage, instruct, preserve and finally perfect those who accept it, Messiah organized His church. He bestowed upon its members certain great and precious spiritual gifts and graces, such as the power to speak in new tongues and interpret them; to receive revelation, to prophesy, to see visions, receive the visitation of angels, to possess the gift of wisdom, knowledge, faith, discernment of spirits, and healing the sick.

The description of the church organization in the New Testament is extremely imperfect, owing, no doubt to the fragmentary character of the Christian annals. While the distinctions between the respective offices in the Priesthood, and the definition of the duties of each officer are even less satisfactory; still there is enough written to enable us to get an outline of the wonderful organization.

Messiah, during his personal ministry, organized a quorum of twelve apostles, to whom he gave very great powers and authority, even to be witnesses of him among the people, to build up his church by the proclamation of the gospel, to heal the sick, open the eyes of the blind, raise the dead and cast out devils. He likewise organized quorums of seventies unto whom he gave similar powers to those bestowed upon the apostles.

After his resurrection Messiah was with his apostles and disciples forty days, during which time he was teaching them all things concerning the kingdom of God. Hence we have these men after his ascension organizing branches of the church wherever they found people who received their testimony. In some instances they ordained elders to preside over these branches; and in other instances bishops were appointed.

Paul in giving a description of the organization of the church, says:

And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, governments, diversities of

tongues. Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?

The implied answer is that all are not apostles nor prophets, nor teachers, etc., in the church of Christ, but that the whole body, fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth.

Preceeding the first quotation we made from Paul, he compares the church of Christ to the body of a man, which, though it be composed of many members yet is but one body, and all the members thereof are needful to it. "The eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee; nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of thee. Nay much more those members of the body which seem to be more feeble are necessary." This is equivalent to saying that the apostle cannot say to the elder, I have no need of thee; nor the deacon to the bishop, I have no need of thee; nor the seventy to the priest, I have no need of thee. The argument is that all the offices, even those which seem the least necessary are all needful to the existance of the Church of Christ, and everyone is forbidden to hold as unnecessary his brother officer.

Moreover, the apostle insists that there should be the same bond of sympathy between the members of the human body; that there should be no schism in it and that the members should have a care one for another; that when one member suffers all the members suffer with it; or if one member be honored all rejoice with it.

In another description of the church the same writer after saying again that God had given to men "some apostles, and some prophets and some evangelists and some pastors and teachers"—he also enumerates the objects for which this peculiar organization was given: 1. For the perfecting of the saints. 2. The work of the ministry. 3. Edifying the body of Christ. 4. To prevent the saints being carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

He very plainly intimates too, that this organization was designed to be perpetuated until all come to the "unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God . . unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. Futhermore, we suggest that it must be obvious, since the church organization was given to perfect the saints to the work of the ministry, to edify the body of Christ, to prevent the saints being carried about by every wind of doctrine or being deceived by the cunning of men—that so long as there are saints who need perfecting, so long as there is a necessity for work in the ministry, so long as the church of Christ needs edifying, or the saints need to be guarded from heresy or the deceitfulness of false teachers—just so long will this organization of the church with apostles and prophets, seventies and elders, bishops and teachers and deacons be needed; and since the kinds of work enumerated in the foregoing will always be necessary, we reach the conclusion that the church organization as established by the apostles was designed to be perpetual.

Moreover it is apparent that these officers of the church were called of God. Concerning the apostles Jesus said: "Ye have not chosen me but I have chosen you, and ordained you that ye may bring forth fruit." When seven men were chosen to look after the poor and minister to them they set them before the apostles who, when they had prayed, laid their hands upon them and ordained them to their calling.

So in the case of Paul. It was not enough that he saw and spoke with Messiah, for afterwards when the Lord would have him engage in the work of preaching the gospel and administering in the ordinances thereof, the Holy Ghost said unto certain prophets at Antioch:

Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.

Furthermore, as Paul went about confirming the souls of saints, he ordained elders in every church. He did not suffer men to take the authority on themselves to minister in the things of God; but warned the saints against such characters.

"Take heed unto yourselves," said he to the elders of Ephesus, "and to all the flock over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the flock of God.—For I know this that after my departing, shall grevious wolves enter in, not sparing the flock. And of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."

The general law of the church is expressed in the following:

Every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sin. . . . And no man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God as was Aaron.

The manner in which Aaron was called to the priest's office is recorded in the writings of Moses as follows: The word of the Lord came to that prophet saying:

Take thou unto thee Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him from among the children of Israel that he may minister unto me in the priest's office, even Aaron, Nadaband, Abihu, Eleazer and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

It may be objected that this was the law relating to the calling of high priests alone, but if high priests were to be called in this manner, is it not reasonable to conclude that all who administer in things "petraining to God" must be called in the same manner—that is, of God: So far as the scriptures are concerned, and on subjects of this character their authority is conclusive, wherever we have either an account of men administering in the things pertaining to God, and their administrations are accepted of Him, they have either been called directly by revelation from Him, or through inspiration in those who already had authority from God to act in His name; and to be called by a legitimate, divinely established authority is to be called of God.

SACRAMENT GEM FOR JUNE, 1932.

"Come follow me" the Savior said;
Then let us in His footsteps tread,
For thus alone can we be one
With God's own loved begotten Son.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF RELIEF SOCIETIES IN SALT LAKE CITY, APRIL 6.

Music Furnished by our own Choir of 200 Voices.

A unique feature of the general sessions of the Relief Society conference in Salt Lake City, April 6th was the singing of the general Relief Society Choir of approximately 200 voices, gathered from many Wards and Stakes as representatives to the conference. The instructions were first given by the stake choristers and then the singers gathered together every week for two months for special training.

President Louise Y. Robison of the Relief Society spoke of the divine organization of the Church and especially of that part of the organization that gives opportunity to women to serve, in fact commands that they serve. The Relief Society she declared was the expression of this opportunity and one of the means of extending the mercy and aid of God on earth. She urged that this body of women in the organization of the Church continue to serve and serve nobly.

Total disbursements of the Relief Society organization for the past year amounted to $287,244 and assets of the organization total $1,034,312.61, reported Mrs. Lund.

Membership in 1930 totalled 64,225 and in 1931 was 66,884. The amount spent for charity purposes was $109,493 in 1931 as compared with $116,448 last year.

R. Stewart, president of the Hollywood stake Relief Society, offered the benediction.

Selfishness Flayed.

"Selfishness and greed, two of the most reprehensible things in the world, can largely be blamed for the present economic situation," Presiding Bishop Sylvester Q. Cannon declared at the opening general session of the Relief Society conference in the Tabernacle. The session was con-

cerned for the main part with discussions of relief work and the service rendered by the society during the past winter. Close to 6,000 women attended the meeting which was presided over by President Louise Y. Robison.

"The failure of mankind to consider the laws of economics have contributed with the great underlying causes of greed and selfishness to bring about present conditions and we must find means of conquering these things," Bishop Cannon declared. "Surely there is no better means than a true observance of the laws of our religion."

Three Remedies Offered.

Three general remedies were mentioned as material aids in conquering the depression; the overcoming of unemployment by instituting shorter daily working hours and shorter work weeks; general buying in home marketing and the patronizing of home industry, and the stablization of the purchasing power of the dollar and of commodity prices.

The speaker also raised the question of the Church's responsibility in caring for the unemployed and needy. "The Church can and should take care of all its faithful members, but beyond that point they have neither the moral or legal responsibility," he said.

He exhorted Church members to continue to develop and cultivate the true spirit of sacrifice, to look beneath the surface of life and there discover the real fundamentals and lasting values and to so live and act that they would ever be guided by the Holy Spirit.

"We are living in an important and remarkable age. Never before in the history of our Church has it been more important that we enjoy and follow divine guidance in the ordering of our lives. It has been promised to us that by living in accordance with the laws and commandments the light of the Holy Spirit will light our paths.

Our leaders today are inspired of God and are in a position to counsel and advise in all things. If we follow their counsel I promise you we shall avoid all difficulty and have joy and satisfaction throughout our lives."

CHURCH GROWTH AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

The following are some extracts from the sermon of President Heber J. Grant at the opening session of the General Conference of the Church, held at Salt Lake City, Utah, April 8th, 9th, 10th., giving some statistics and other data pertaining to the management of the Church and its growth.

I rejoice exceedingly in having the opportunity of again meeting with the Latter-day Saints in General Conference.

It has been customary for many years in the opening of these conferences to give a statement regarding the expenditures in various stakes of Zion, and for other purposes.

The expenditures by the Church for the year 1931 are as follows:

Stake and Ward Purposes:	
There has been returned from the tithes to the stakes and wards for the construction of ward and stake meeting houses ...	$545,630.69
For ward maintenance expenses	647,194.36
For stake maintenance expenses	254,025.41
	$1,446,850.46
Education:	
Expended for the maintenance of Church school system	$751,200.28
Temples:	
Expended for the construction, maintenance, and operation of temples	201,833.50
Charities:	
For the care of the worthy poor and other charitable purposes including hospital treatment	224,556.38
Missions:	
For the maintenance and operation of all the missions, and for the erection of places of worship and other buildings in the missions	757,126.76
Total	$3,381,567.38

which has been taken from the tithes and other Church funds and returned by the Trustee-in Trust to the Saints for the maintenance and operation of the stakes and wards for the maintenance and operation of Church schools and Temples, for charities and mission activities.

Other Charities:

In addition to charities paid from the tithes as before named, there has also been disbursed the fast offerings, other charities and assistance rendered by the Relief Society in the sum of $455,423.46, which amount, added to the $224,556.38 paid from the tithes, makes the total charity assistance rendered by the Church $679,979.84

There has been collected by various wards of the Church and paid to missionaries to assist in their maintenance 66,783.90

Members Spend Million.

Undoubtedly there has been expended by the people themselves, in sending missionaries out into the world and taking care of them while there, considerably more than one million dollars.

Statistics and other Data Compiled from the Annual Reports for the year 1931.

We have at the present time: Stakes of Zion, 104; wards, 934; Independent branches, 70; Dependent branches, 35; total wards and branches in the stakes of Zion, 1,039; Missions, 30; Mission branches, 860; districts, 266.

Church Growth.

Children blessed and entered on the records of the Church in the stakes and missions	19,804
Children baptized in the stakes and missions	15,283
Converts baptized and entered on the records of the stakes and missions	7,596
Number of long-term missionaries from Zion, December 31, 1931	1,627
Number of short-term missionaries from Zion, December 31, 1931	30
Number of local missionaries ...	46
Total number of missionaries on foreign missions	1,703
Number engaged in missionary work in stakes	1,151
Total missionaries	2,854
Number of missionaries who received training at the Missionary Home	601
Persons recommended to the temples, stakes	72,152

Social Statistics.

Birth rate, 29 per thousand.

Marriage rate, 12.8 per thousand.

Death rate, 6.6 per thousand.

Families owning their own homes, 65.2 per cent.

Home Owning Urged.

Our records show that in years gone by over 75 per cent of the people owned their own homes. The owning of a home creates a spirit of loyalty to the Church and also, really, to the government. It is illustrated somewhat in an incident that I heard regarding a nobleman in France who was very wealthy. His butler who drew a large salary, attended socialistic meetings. The nobleman noticed that the butler had discontinued attending these meetings and asked the reason.

Said he: "At the last meeting a report was made of how much per capita everybody would receive when all of the wealth was appropriated and distributed, and already I have more in the savings bank than would come to me."

It cured him completely.

Present Number of Stake Organizations:

Stakes	104
Wards	934
Independent branches	70
	1004

Present Number of Mission Organizations:

Missions	30
Branches in missions	860
	890

MISSION MEETING CONTEST.

Far surpassing expectations, the Mission Meeting Contest may be expressed as an influence engaging the attention and curiosity of a steadily increasing number. Not only are there many more meetings held, but there is greater attendance to all meetings. Consequently there are more opportunities provided the seeker for truth and knowledge. Many are eager to assist loyally, their District to win the prize offered the winners, which is, sufficient new song books for the Branch organizations of the successful District.

Elder E. P. Wright, writes from Cape District as follows: "The headliner of the local news is the meeting contest. Everyone here is determined to win. So far, the Mowbray Branch has held 31 meetings. I have attended 25 of them. Brother John Wilson is leading the members with 13, but there are several right behind him. Many people have said they are anxious to win the combination set, (Book of Mormon, Doc. and Cov. and Pearl of Great Price), and they look like they mean business."

Sister Mary E. Vice of Johannesburg, writing to the President of East London District, complimenting that District for winning the Book of Mormon Reading Competition recently completed, expressed the determination of Transvaal District to emerge the winners of this contest and facetiously informed that District President that the Transvaal District's old song books would be suitable for East London for second prize, if it expected to be in the running, as Transvaal was going to get the new song books, and have first place.

Kimberley is carefully preparing a roll and accurate records are being kept so that at least some of the faithful members there will receive the complimentary prize of a copy of the Articles of Faith, offered to the twenty highest in attendance to meetings after the first highest award has been earned, which is the fine combination set, offered by President Dalton.

President C. E. Randall writes from Johannesburg the following: "The meeting contest has helped our attendance, and we have a lot of calls for cottage meetings and I certainly think it is a wonderful thing."

DURBAN.—Elder W. H. Godfrey writes: "We are holding cottage meetings at Mayes and Hancocks and are going to arrange for more. That means we are going to win the new song books. A number of the Saints are anxious to win the individual prizes also."

PORT ELIZABETH started the competition Sunday, May 1st, with a conference meeting and from the good attendance Elders C. D. Taylor and M. F. Smith feel certain that the song books are going to Port Elizabeth.

BLOEMFONTEIN, is without missionaries at present, but the members there are regularly holding meetings and much interest is taken in them all.

It is evident that all participants will have to help make great interest in the meetings and socials in order to cope with the growing support this contest is receiving. Of course, everyone will do the work assigned them by the Elders and as a result more people will find an avenue to do something in the Church. "Work for Everybody and Everybody Working" is a splendid motto to follow, but here's another: "Let's Teach the Gospel in Every Home and Let Every Home Teach the Gospel."

Be sure you are given credit for attendance at any meeting or social. You may be a prize winner on October 31.—D.

CONCERT RECITATION FOR JUNE, 1932.

Old Testament Class.

"And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more.

"But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it."

Micah. 4· 3-4.

CONCERT RECITATION FOR JUNE, 1932.

Gospel Doctrine Class.

"For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God."

Job 15: 25-26.

MISSION NEWS.

CAPE DISTRICT.

Elder K. Y. Stringham, Dist. President, "Cumorah," Main and Grove Rds. Mowbray.

Meetings held at above address, Sunday, 10.30 a.m. and 7.0 p.m.; Mutual, Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.; Relief Society and Priesthood Meeting, Thursday, 7.45 p.m.

Mission President Don Mack Dalton left Cape Town April 28 on his semi-annual tour of the Mission. All wish him a successful trip and a pleasant visit in the other Districts.

The Strand Branch is happy to welcome two more members into the Church. Bro. Petrus Johannes Coetzee and Sis. Catharina Coetzee were baptized and confirmed by Elder William H. Brummer on April 18.

Sister Maggie Wilson has returned to the Mowbray Branch after a visit of nearly twenty months in Utah. She reports having a wonderful time during her sojourn there, but seems glad to be home once more with her folks and her many friends. Sister Maggie says that Utah is indeed the real Zion, and that it has been an added testimony for her to be able to go there.

Bro. Dick Jakins of the Strand was a visitor at "Cumorah" on April 24. Bro. Dick made some very inspirational remarks, both in the evening service and at street meeting, which proved very beneficial to all those present.

Mr. and Mrs. Kelly of Johannesburg, and four sons, who are spending a holiday at Muizenberg, have made several visits to "Cumorah" during their stay in the Cape.

Sis. Freda Mobbs left for Port Elizabeth on May 3. She expects to stay in Port Elizabeth for some time as she has found employment there.

Sis. Doreen Orton left for her home in Johannesburg May 5. She has been in Cape Town for three months on a holiday, and the many friends that she has made were sorry to have her leave.

Cape District has started the Meeting Contest with a good attendance in all regular meetings, and with many special cottage meetings being held. Prospects look bright for some new song books for Cape District.

The Mowbray Branch Presidency and Genealogical Society were reorganized Sunday, May 1. Bro. Walter N. Park was released, with a vote of thanks, from his office as first counselor and was then sustained as second counselor to President Don Mack Dalton and Bro. Thomas Y. Wilson was sustained as first counselor. Bro. Walter O. Hanson and Bro. William Wilson, and Sisters Blanche Wilson, Florence Vigus, Wilhelmina Swart, and Lillian Perrin, were all released from their offices in the Genealogical Society with a vote of thanks for their good service. Bro. Thomas Wilson was sustained as Genealogical Chairman, with Sis. Maggie Wilson as Secretary of the organization.

Elders Evan P. Wright and John C. Dalton made a short week-end trip to Stellenbosch and the Strand on March 16 and 17. They visited Mr. and Mrs. O'Connor at Stellenbosch and the members and friends at the Strand.

STRAND NEWS.

Brother Cecil Bibb, of the Strand, has obtained employment at Bain's Kloof.

Strand Branch is doing its bit to help Cape District win the meeting contest. Many are attending the meetings regularly and additional meetings are being held.

The Branch held a fine picnic at the park on May 5. Elder Brummer kept all busy and happy playing games.

A wonderful Mother's Day program was held in Sunday School May 8. Eighteen participated in the different numbers. The Primary class was especially active.

Bro. Petrus Coetzee has been sustained as Second Assistant Sunday School Superintendent. Bro. Cornelius Van Nickerk has been appointed Sunday School Secretary. Bro. Bertram Phillips has been sustained as Secretary of the Genealogical Society.

TRANSVAAL DISTRICT.

Elder C. E. Randall, District President, 395 Commissioner St., Johannesburg.

Meetings held at above address, Tuesday, 8.0 p.m.; Mutual, Friday, 8.0 p.m.; Sunday, 10.30 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

The Johannesburg branch enjoyed a picnic at Melville on March 28th. Lively games ensued after which tasty lunches were brought out to satisfy the appetites of those participating. A number of members and friends enjoyed the afternoon although the rain came to break up the fun.

On Sunday April 3rd, exercises commemorating the organization of the Church were held at Ramah under direction of President Clarence E. Randall. Special programmes were given in both the morning and evening services, talks being given on the translation of the Book of Mormon and the Organization of the Church.

An interesting ping pong tournament was held at Ramah on April 12th by the Branch Relief Society. Sister Phyllis Hubert was the winner of the prize given to the survivor of all the eliminations.

Choir practices are being held three times a week at Ramah and many people have been attending. From all indications President Dalton will have a pleasant surprize when he arrives in Jo'burg on his Conference tour.

One of our younger members, Lawrence G. Kelly, had the misfortune to have an accident on one of the tram cars, but he recovered sufficiently to leave on April 25th for Cape Town with his folks. We are glad that he was well enough to go, and wish them all Godspeed.

Sister Parnell of Norwood has been confined to her bed on account of illness. Her daughter Pearl has also been in bed with a badly injured eye. We all join in wishing them both a speedy recovery.

On April 25th a cottage meeting was held at the home of Brother and Sister Stephen Brummer who are now living in Judith's Paarl. "A Brief History of the Church" was taken up and all seemed to enjoy it.

Sister Sopvia Elizabet Hoffman was baptised April 10th by Elder Eldon Harris and confirmed on the same date by Elder Clarence E. Randall. We all bid her a hearty welcome into the Church.

District President Clarence E. Randall and Elder S. L. Gardner made a trip to Pretoria and Premier Mine on April 5th. While there they visited the members and friends there and looked up C. S. C. subscriptions.

We are sorry to report the illness of Brother and Sister Smith of Johannesburg and Brother Spear of Premier Mine.

EAST LONDON DISTRICT.

Elder B. C. Peterson, Dist. President, 7 Muir Street, East London.

Meetings held Sunday, 2.30 p.m., Son's of England Minor Hall.

Members of the East London District were pleasantly surprised to find that they had won the Book of Mormon contest. All the East London members join in thanking Bro. and Sis. Shelver for their good work. It is also rumored that East London is holding many cottage meetings in order to win the Meeting contest that is now going on.

On Sunday, April 10, the East London Branch held their Anniversary Memorial Service commemorating the 102 birthday of the Church. Fitting programs were rendered in all meetings. All the members of the younger classes were represented in excellent songs and talks.

Bro. B. A. T. Jubber, who just returned from Cathcart on April 9, and Bro. Charles Jubber also gave short talks. In the evening service, held at the home of Bro. and Sis. Charles Jubber, Master Ray Keytel played a violin solo, and Sis. Cora Futter and daughter, Phyllis, sang a duet. Both numbers were accompanied by Sis. Olive Futter. There were forty-one in attendance to the meeting.

On April 11 the elders went to King-williamstown. While there they were able to arrange for a cottage meeting at the home of Bro. and Sis. Pike. They found the members and friends there feeling very well. Bro. and Sis. Behm are now living out of town.

Bro. C. H. Jubber has been suffering with his foot again due to another unfortunate accident. We all hope he will be around again shortly.

Sis. J. M. Toughey has been ill for the last few days.

Bro. Dick Spear, and friend, left on pushbikes for Bloemfontein, April 12.

KIMBERLEY DISTRICT.

Elder R. J. Evans, Dist. President,
81 Kenilworth Rd., Kimberley.

Services, Sunday evenings, 35 Central Rd., Beaconsfield.

A special service was held on April 3 to commemorate the 102nd anniversary of the organization of the Church. Special phases of the "Restoration of the Gospel" and the "Organization of the Church" were treated by Elder Sutherland and President R. J. Evans. A reading was given by Sis. Lily Clark, and a vocal trio, composed of Sis. Maud Grotique, Sis. Myrtle Clark and Elder Sutherland sang.

President R. J. Evans and Elder K. Sutherland made a trip to Barkly West and the Good Hope Diamond Diggings on March 30. While at Barkly West they were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Sundstrom. They also paid a visit to the Masseys at the Good Hope Diamond Diggings.

The lantern lecture has been shown at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey and Mrs. and Mrs. Bender of Beaconsfield, during the past month.

Sis. Grotique has moved from her old place at 38 Main Rd., and is now living at 35 Central Rd.

On April 16, President Evans and Bro. Rossouw made a trip to Boshoff by motorbike. Bro. Rossouw was a resident of Boshoff at one time, and is very well acquainted with the people there, so the brethren were able to make a number of new contacts during their stay. Quite a number of tracts and pamphlets were left with the people, and the elders feel that much good may be done there in the future.

Bro. and Mrs. Bill Massey were in Kimberley on April 12. Mrs. Massey has been ill for some time and this illness resulted in a trip to Kimberley for medical attention. They returned to their home at the Good Hope Diamond Diggings the same night. Since then Bro. Massey has gone to Petersburg, O.F.S., where he is employed at the present time.

On April 21 the elders visited Mr. and Sis. Bryant and son, at Ritchie, Modder River. These good people tendered their usual hospitality to the elders.

Mr. and Sis. Fouché and children, Joy, Stephen, Christian, and Phillip are enjoying a holiday with relatives in Port Elizabeth.

Bro. Rossouw has been ill with fever for several days, but has recovered sufficiently to be back at work now.

PORT ELIZABETH DISTRICT.

Elder C. D. Taylor, Dist. President.
No 12 .Hope St., Port Elizabeth.

Meetings held Wednesday 7.30 p.m.; Sunday 10.30 a.m. and 7.0 p.m. at Mechanic's Hall, No. 9 Donkin Street.

Elders C. D. Taylor and M. S. Smith spent the night with Mr. and Sister McWilliams of Mt. Pleasant, April 15. While there a most interesting Book of Mormon class was held and Eileen McWilliams was blessed by Elder Smith. Bro. and Sis. R. A. Brown of Fairview were also visited on the same trip. Bro. Brown had a bad cold at the time, although he has recovered.

A Branch picnic at New Brighton Beach was held on Easter Monday, March 28. The usual good time of bathing, playing games and eating was enjoyed by all present.

Mrs. Mary Clark, a friend of the Branch, has been very ill, but is now at home and is recovering speedily.

The Uitenhage Branch is growing spiritually and materially, states Branch President C. A. Smith, Jr. Auxiliary meetings are well attended by members and friends. Branch Relief Society meetings are being held weekly with great joy and satisfaction coming from them.

Information concerning the Genealogy of Elders Smith and Taylor was also gathered on a trip to Uitenhage, which is the former home of their Grandfathers.

A pageant practice social was held in the home of Branch President and Sis. R. K. Doller, on April 7. The surprise of the evening was the good ice cream made and served by Sis. Doller after the practice.

Splendid Relief Society meetings have been held during the past few months in the homes of Bro. and Sis. C. C. Cawood, Sis. Rosella Appleby, and Bro. and Sis. Doller.

The Sidwell Sunday School, under the Superintendency of Bro. Robert J. Doller, is determined to double its membership during the meeting contest, and do its share in helping to place Port Elizabeth District on the top.

At the regular Evening Service held April 24, the members and friends of the Branch were favored with two vocal selections from Miss Ivy Cross.

DURBAN DISTRICT.

Elder J. H. Smith, Dist. President, 52 Botanic Gardens Rd., Durban.

Meetings held Sunday 10.30 a.m., and 7.0 p.m., Doris Kinsman Studio, Buchanan Building, West and Russell Street.

April found a number of members on the sick list: Sis. Trestrail, Sis. Sweeney, Sis. Canning, Bro. Fagan, Sis. Wade and the Hayden family. However, all are recovering so the outlook for the future looks brighter.

The elders helped to celebrate Bro. Street's 38th birthday at the home of Bro. and Sis. Street March 26. The evening was spent in playing Rook. Sis. Street furnished the refreshments.

March 28 found the majority of the members gathered at Albert Park for a picnic. Everyone had a good time, and more outings are being planned.

The organization of the Church was commemorated April 3. Many members and friends were in attendance at the meetings. Remarks were made by the elders and Bro. Trestrail. Madame Fouché also favored with a vocal solo.

Bro. Reuben Dix-Peek of Cape Town arrived April 3 to spend a few days' holiday in Durban.

Elders J. H. Smith and W. H. Godfrey made a motorbike trip to Maritzburg and Estcourt on April 21. They found all the saints and friends well.

Word from Bro. Buckley states that all is well with him and his family at Sezela. He sends greetings to all the members of the Durban Branch.

Bro. and Sis. Mayes are back from their holiday, well and happy. Cottage meetings have been arranged there. Cottage meetings are also being held regularly at Hancock's.

Bro. and Sis. Moore are preparing to leave for England June 4. As a remembrance, they have presented the Branch with a lovely new sacrament set. We thank this kind brother and sister for this splendid gift, and feel sure that they'll be missed very much in the Durban Branch.

Brethren take note:—Priesthood meeting is now held in conjunction with Relief Society meeting.

Pres. Don Mack Dalton is expected to be in Durban June 3 for District Conference. Interesting meetings have been arranged. Everyone is expected to be present to receive the inspirational thoughts that President Dalton always leaves with us.

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